countries to negotiate for the procurement of gas for NTPC plants;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether NTPC aim to add 1,00,000 MW power generation capacity by 2012; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. A delegation from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) visited Oman in the month of February, 2005 to explore the possibilities of participating in the elements of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) value chain to source LNG for NTPC's gas based power plants.

(c) and (d) Ministry of Power plans to add 1,00,000 MW power generation capacity by 2012 in which NTPC has planned for capacity addition of 9160 MW during Tenth Plan (2002-2007) and about 17000 MW capacity is envisaged to be added by NTPC during Eleventh Plan (2007-2012).

NTPC into petroleum and gas sector

1847. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC is planning to foray into other business including gas and petroleum sector;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether NTPC is participating in international global tenders for construction of power plants in joint venture; and

(d) if so, the details thereof with the names of countries where NTPC is actively negotiating for power projects?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) and (b) As a part of its future strategy for growth, National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC), in addition to its core business of setting up and operating thermal power plants, is going in for Hydro-electric Power, backward and forward integration in utilization of Liquefied Natural Gas, Power Trading, Distribution of Power and Coal Mining etc.

(c) and (d) NTPC has not participated in any international global tenders for construction of power plant in joint venture. However, NTPC has submitted a proposal to Government of Sri Lanka for development of a 3x300 MW coal/gas based project on build own and operate basis in Sri Lanka.

Allocation of funds under RGGVY

†1848. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the States in which Rajiv Gandhi Rural Electrification Scheme is in operation;

(b) whether State of Bihar has been allocated funds for this scheme in this financial year;

(c) what progress has been made so far; and

(d) what contribution has to be shared by the State in this scheme?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana covers the entire country. The scheme is in operation in Bihar, Haryana, J&K, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Uttaranchal and West Bengal.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Out of total thirty-eight districts in Bihar, POWERGRID has commenced work in seven districts. Out of these seven, in two districts the work is in full swing.

(d) Under this scheme, 90 percent capital subsidy shall be provided for overall cost of the project and the balance 10 percent of the project cost will be provided as loan on soft terms by Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. to the State Government.

New power tariff policy

1849. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is preparing a new power tariff policy for the country;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.